

**STATE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
DOVER, DELAWARE**

**Thursday, July 9, 2015**

The July monthly meeting of the Delaware State Human Relations Commission was held by video-conference the Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Conference Room A, Dover, Delaware; and the Carvel Building, 820 N. French Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Executive Conference Room, Wilmington, Delaware.

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**Attendance:**

**Commission Members Present:** Acting Chairperson Gail Launay-Tarlecki. Commissioners Whittona Burrell, Chok-Fun Chui, Doug James, Nancy Maihoff, Misty Seemans, Roy Sudler Jr. and Robert Watson Jr.

**Commission Members not present:** Chair Calvin Christopher (excused). Commissioners Mashoor Awad (excused), Diaz Bonville (excused), Erika Caesar (excused), Wallace Dixon (excused), Bernice Edwards (excused), Stephen Elkins (excused), Earnest Gulab (excused), Michael J. Harpe (excused), Rose Mary Hendrix (excused), Pameela Kaza (excused), Lorenzo Murdaugh (excused), Walter Smith Jr. (excused) and Rosemarie Williams (excused).

**Staff from Division of Human Relations Office:** Romona Fullman and Kelly Fox

**Members of the public present:** DeBorah Gilbert-White

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**I Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Launay-Tarlecki at 7:08 p.m., followed by a period of silent meditation.

**II Approval of Minutes**

Approval of minutes tabled. Acting Chairperson Gail Launay-Tarlecki asked Commissioners contact the office with any correction requests.

**III Members of the Public Present**

DeBorah Gilbert-White, founder of Her Story Ensemble, came to discuss the proposed Homeless Bill of Rights with the Commission and to learn more about the function of the State Human Relations Commission. She is also seeking guidance and possible support for her proposed bill. A copy of the proposed bill was provided to all Commissioners. Director Fullman advised on the availability of Fair Housing Training

that could be provided to members of her organization going forward. Following the discussion Commissioner Seemans offered feedback on the bill, offered to reach out to Dr. Gilbert-White after the meeting to discuss the feedback, and agreed to include the bill on the agenda of the September meeting of the Legislative Committee. Kelly provided copies of the Fair Housing Act and Regulations, the Equal Accommodations Act and Regulations and Director Fullman's business card.

#### IV Chair's Report

Topic / Discussion	Actions to be Taken	Leaders	Due Date
Commissioner Vacancies - Acting Chairperson Gail Launay-Tarlecki reported that Chair Christopher is awaiting responses from the Governor's office on proposed reappointments.			
Dover Human Relations Commission – Director Fullman reported that Chair Christopher met with the Chair of the Dover Human Relations Commission, S. Renee Smith, to discuss possible collaboration between the Dover Human Relations Commission and the State Human Relation Commission.	Chair Christopher and Director Fullman will have a follow up meeting with S. Renee Smith.	Chair Christopher	Undefined
Office of Civil Rights and Public Trust – Director Fullman reported that Allison Reardon of the Office of Civil Rights will be attending the August Executive meeting and a future Full Commission meeting.	Confirm DAG Reardon's participation	Chair Christopher	

#### V Director's Report

Topic / Discussion	Actions to be Taken	Leaders	Due Date
Director's report will be sent electronically following the meeting. Several items in the news are included in the report for Commissioner review.	Report to be sent electronically.	Director Fullman	Following meeting.
Director Fullman thanked Commissioners James and Maihoff for their internal and external awareness and training efforts. She also acknowledged and thanked			

<p>staff (Hungria, Fountain and Petroff) for their efforts at expanding the scope of the Division's education and training initiatives.</p> <p>Director Fullman will follow up with Commissioner Sudler on training opportunities and connection with the City of Dover. Commissioner Sudler indicated he will also contact NCALL's Steering Committee. He will email the information to the office.</p>	<p>Follow up with Commissioner Sudler</p> <p>Commissioner Sudler to contact NCALL's Steering Committee.</p>	<p>Director Fullman</p> <p>Commissioner Sudler</p>	<p>Undefined</p> <p>Undefined</p>
<p>Director Fullman reported that on July 15<sup>th</sup> she and Chair Christopher are scheduled to participate in a Race Relations Discussion hosted by United Way. Director Fullman intends to offer to host a future Discussion if one scheduled.</p>	<p>Attend Race Relations Meeting</p>	<p>Director Fullman, Chair Christopher</p>	<p>July 15<sup>th</sup></p>
<p>Film and Discussion series – Director Fullman reported that Natalie Fountain is working to start the process of film and discussion series. Natalie discussed films that are of potential interest for the series.</p>	<p>Select films; schedule forums</p>	<p>Director Fullman, Natalie Fountain</p>	<p>August 2015</p>
<p>Meetings and Hearings – Director Fullman revisited the recommendation of changing SHRC meeting start time from 7pm to 6pm and hearing start time from 6:30pm to 3:30pm. The recommendation will be discussed at the September full Commission meeting.</p>	<p>Add to September SHRC meeting agenda</p>	<p>Calvin Christopher</p>	<p>September 10, 2015</p>

## VI Committee Reports

Topic / Discussion	Actions to be Taken	Leader	Due Date
<p><u>Public Awareness Committee (PAW)</u> – Commissioner James reported that he has a call into</p>			

Comcast Newsmakers to schedule another segment.  Commissioner James expressed thanks to the Director Fullman and Natalie for their efforts to improve the Division's website.  Commissioner James thanked Kelly for sending out his news items to all Commissioners and staff.			
<u>Legislative Committee</u> – No report.			
<u>Community Response Committee (CRC)</u> – Commissioner Maihoff reported that Commissioner Chui, Natalie Fountain and herself will be staffing a booth at the Gay Pride event on August 1 <sup>st</sup> .			
<u>Governor's Council on Equal Employment Opportunity Committee (GCEEEOC)</u> – Acting Chair Launay-Tarlecki reported there was no meeting in June. The two meetings are scheduled July 13 <sup>th</sup> and August 4 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Haslet Armory They will be discussing Divisions that are of concern on an ongoing basis.			

## VII Old Business

Topic / Discussion	Actions to be Taken	Leader	Due Date
None.			

## VIII New Business

Topic / Discussion	Actions to be Taken	Leader	Due Date
None.			

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**IX Good News**

Topic / Discussion	Actions to be Taken	Leader	Due Date
Commissioner Burrell was traveling in Lisbon, Portugal and she received a very favorable response to her wearing her Stand Against Racism wristband. She provided an explanation of the meaning of the bracelet. Commissioner Burrell gave her wristband to the individual.			
Commissioner Launay-Tarlecki has sold her home and moved to Lewes.			

**XI Meeting Adjourned**

The Commission meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:38 p.m. by Commissioner Launay-Tarlecki.